

**City of West St. Paul  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
December 9, 2019**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Napier called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Dave Napier  
Councilmembers Wendy Berry, Lisa Eng-Sarne,  
Anthony Fernandez, John Justen, Bob Pace and Dick Vitelli

Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Ryan Schroeder  
City Attorney Kori Land  
Interim Police Chief Brian Sturgeon  
Human Resources Director Debra Gieseke  
Finance Director Char Stark  
Parks & Public Works Director/City Engineer Ross Beckwith  
Community Development Director Jim Hartshorn  
City Clerk Shirley Buecksler

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Adopt the Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to remove Item 9F, Amending 2020 Fee Schedule, for a future meeting and to pull Item 9L, Resolution Endorsing Carbon Pricing, for discussion prior to approval.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**5. OCWS Briefing**

Mayor Napier said the Council held a work session prior to the regular meeting to discuss the following topics:

- A. Review Applications for Environmental, Park & Recreation, and Planning Commissions
- B. Public Safety Committee Update
- C. 2020 Fee Schedule Amended

**6. Citizen Comments**

The following citizens addressed the Council:

- Greg Shepherd, 215 East Kathleen Drive, Ward 3, regarding the sidewalk on Marie from Robert Street to Oakdale Avenue. He commended the City on a great job. Mr. Shepherd also spoke regarding parking on Kathleen Drive between Marie Avenue and Westview

Drive, as well on Westview Drive from Oakdale Avenue all the way around to Marie Avenue. He suggested parking on one side of the street only.

## **7. Council Comments**

Councilmember Pace wished everyone Happy Holidays and safe travels.

Councilmember Berry also wished Happy Holidays to everyone.

Councilmember Fernandez wished Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to all.

Councilmember Eng-Sarne said it has been a pleasure working with everyone over the past year. She thanked everyone for this opportunity. Councilmember Eng-Sarne also said that Southview Animal Hospital will be having their Grand Opening on Saturday, December 14, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. New street lights have been installed at Marie Avenue and Livingston Avenue, of which power will be connected on December 18. And the Police Department remodeling project will continue through April or May. Schroeder added that anyone attending Council meetings in January, February and March will notice the impacts to the Council Chambers during that time.

Councilmember Justen thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve them during the past year and said he looks forward to future years on Council.

Councilmember Vitelli said Angie Craig's Town Hall Meeting was very informative on Saturday and suggested attending her future meetings.

Mayor Napier said he was very honored to be asked to serve on the interview panel for candidates for enrollment in the Military Academy. He was invited by U.S. Congresswoman Angie Craig to sit on the panel that interviewed 20 unbelievable students from Minnesota's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. Students were ranked for recommendation to the Military Academy.

Mayor Napier said that Southview Animal Hospital was founded by Milton Bauer and has been a staple in our neighboring community for many years. Southview Animal Hospital has now invested in the Old Country Buffet building. They added a lot to the front of the building and made a great investment in that area. Mayor Napier said their Grand Opening will be on Saturday, December 14, at 3:00 p.m.

## **8. Proclamations, Presentations and Recognitions**

### **A. Presentation – Crime Mapping**

Interim Police Chief Sturgeon introduced Investigative Assistant Jerri Schmidt who provided instructions for Council and community members on the crime mapping program available on the West St. Paul Police Department website.

Mayor Napier thanked her for the tutorial and said this is a great tool for our residents to use.

Mayor Napier asked Sturgeon to talk about the Heroes & Helpers Program that took place on December 8.

Sturgeon said this is a joint partnership with South Metro Fire Department. About 40 kids went shopping with Police Officers and Firefighters at Target, thanks to donations received from Target and American Veterans Post 1. Sturgeon thanked Dunham's for their generosity in providing food and beverages for the event at Dakota Lodge. He said there were more than 25 volunteers helping, in addition to the Officers and Firefighters. Volunteers helped support the flow of the kids going with the Officers and Firefighters, wrapped presents, served food and helped clean up after the event. Sturgeon said the Police Department and South Metro Fire are dedicated to this program and look forward to next year.

Mayor Napier said knowing that this is going on in our community and that our Police Officers, Firefighters and volunteers are out there helping with such a worthwhile program, that the program generated 40 youth shopping at Target, the great partnership we have with Target, and having Dunham's local restaurant providing the food, makes this a great feel good story. He said it really tells what our community is all about and how our Police Officers and Firefighters step up when we need them. Mayor Napier thanked the Police Department and South Metro Fire Department for such a great program.

## **9. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda, as presented:

**A. 2020 City Meeting Calendar**

**B. Minutes of November 12, 2019**

- OCWS Minutes
- Regular Council Minutes

**C. Minutes of November 25, 2019**

- OCWS Minutes
- Regular Council Minutes

**D. List of Claims for December 9, 2019 in the Amount of \$832,218.20**

**E. Budget Adjustment for Police Overtime in the Amount of \$91,000.00**

**F. ~~Amending 2020 Fee Schedule~~ Item Pulled From Consent Agenda**

**G. Updated 2020-2029 CEP-CIP Plan**

**H. City Licensing to Include:**

2020 On-Sale Liquor Licenses

El Nuevo Morelos Mexican Restaurant, Wine & Beer, Sunday Sales

2020 Business Licenses – No Background

Caliber Collision Center, MV Related

Firestone Complete Auto Care, MV Related

Mister Car Wash, MV Related

**I. Rental Licensing to Include:**

213 Annapolis Street West (Apartment, Renewal)  
153 Emerson Avenue East (Apartment, Renewal)  
991/993 Oakdale Avenue (Duplex, Renewal)

**J. No Fault Sewer Backup Insurance**

- Resolution No. 19-131 Establishing Limited Clean Up and Property Damage Protection for Sewer Back-Ups for Sewer Customers-2020

**K. Award Bid for 2019-2020 Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Project CP 19-8**

**L. Resolution Endorsing Carbon Pricing**

- Resolution No. 19-132 Approving Endorsement of Carbon Pricing by the U.S. Congress

**M. Amendment to Joint Powers Agreement with Dakota County for River to River Trail**

**N. Annual Excess Insurance Declaration**

- Resolution No. 19-133 Approving Non-Waiver of Statutory Tort Liability Limits

**O. Community Development Block Grant Application**

- Resolution No. 19-134 Approving the Application of the City of West St. Paul for Fiscal Year 2020 Dakota County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding

**P. Emerald Ash Borer Community Forest Response Tree Planting Grant**

**Q. Enter Amendment to Site Lease Agreement with St. Paul Regional Water Systems**

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**10. Public Hearings**

**A. Public Hearing – 2020-2021 Budget and Levy Adoption**

Finance Director Stark provided an overview of the 2020-2021 budget and levy and answered questions from the Council.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Pace to adopt Resolution No. 19-135 Adopting the 2020 Tax Levy and Adopting the 2020 Budget.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**B. Public Hearing – First Reading of Zoning Ordinance Amendment Regarding B2 Overlay District**

Community Development Director Hartshorn introduced the following proposed ordinance for its first reading:

*“An Ordinance Amending the West St. Paul Zoning Ordinance by Establishing the Smith/Dodd Neighborhood Overlay District”*

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:22 p.m.

The following people addressed the Council:

- Ken Paulman, 912 Cherokee, Ward 3

Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:23 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Berry to approve the first reading and call for a second reading of the ordinance to be held at the City Council meeting on January 13, 2020.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**C. Public Hearing – Final Reading of Ordinance 19-23 Amending Chapter XV of the City Code Regarding Commercial Vacant Property Registration**

Hartshorn provided an overview of the final reading of the ordinance and answered questions from Council.

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to table this item and move it back to Staff for discussion at a future OCWS.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

**D. Public Hearing – Final Reading of Ordinance 19-24 Amending Zoning Ordinance Sections 153.170 and 153.187 Regarding Auto Accessory Stores**

Hartshorn provided an overview of the final reading of the ordinance and answered questions from Council.

Mayor Napier opened the Public Hearing at 7:33 p.m.

Seeing no one wishing to speak, Mayor Napier closed the Public Hearing at 7:33 p.m.

Motion was made by Councilmember Berry and seconded by Councilmember Justen to pass Ordinance No. 19-24 Amending West St. Paul Zoning Ordinance Sections 153.170 and 153.187 Regarding Allowing Auto Accessory Sales in the B3 District.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **11. New Business**

### **A. Authorize Access Easement for Auto Zone**

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Eng-Sarne to authorize the access easement for Auto Zone, contingent on the City Attorney's review of the drawing and language.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

### **B. Planning Commission Appointment**

Motion was made by Councilmember Vitelli and seconded by Councilmember Justen to affirm Mayor Napier's appointment of Victoria Elsmore to the Planning Commission.

Vote: 6 ayes / 0 nays. Motion carried.

## **12. Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

## **13. Adjourn**

Motion was made by Councilmember Justen and seconded by Councilmember Berry to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

David J. Napier  
Mayor  
City of West St. Paul